




Atty. Dkt. No. 029815-0103

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Sweeney, Patrick J.  
Title: VERTEBRAL  
PROSTHESIS  
Appl. No.: 10/686,998  
Filing Date: 10/16/2003  
Examiner: Barrett, Thomas C.  
Art Unit: 3738  
Confirmation No.: 7428

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING	
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 (Signature)	

Mail Stop **AMENDMENT**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
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AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

This Reply is responsive to the Non-Final Office Action mailed on April 5, 2006, concerning the above-referenced patent application.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this document.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 9 of this document.

Please amend the application as follows: